SPG Cover to the Sons/Daughters of former PMs

846. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of money spent on security of all the former PMs and their sons/daughters annually during the last three years;

(b) whether the policy of providing SPG cover to the sons/daughters of the former PMs is proposed to be/has been reviewed; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) The amount of money spent on the security of all the former Prime Ministers and their immediate family members cannot be specifically identified as the expenditure on Wings of security like Technical, Communication, Training, Motor, Transport, Workshop and Adminstration in the SPG are common for all protectees.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. On 18.11.99 President of India promulgated, the SPG (Amendment) Ordinance. The Ordinance does not contemplate any change in the policy of providing security to the former Prime Ministers and their family members for a period of ten years, except where a former Prime Minister declines the SPG cover, provided to his immediate family members will also stand withdrawn. However, beyond ten years SPG cover would be provided to the former Prime Minister and members of their immediate family if it is justified on the basis of threat perception in their cases.

A Bill to replace the Ordinance has already been introduced and passed by the Rajya Sabha.

Fencing of Karimganj Border

847. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether blueprint on fencing of Karimganj border with Bangladesh has been prepared; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and measures taken to check ISI menace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) Fencing of 71.72 kms of Karimganj-Bangladesh Border in Assam has been sanctioned. About 61 kms of the fencing has been completed as on 31.10.1999. Fencing of additional 35 kms of Karmiganj-Bangladesh border is scheduled in IInd phase.

Other measures taken by the Government to check ISI menace include raising of additional battalions of Border Security Force, reduction of gaps between the border outpost, intensification of patrolling both on the land and the riverine border, increase in the number of outpost towers, provision of surveillance equipments. State Governments have also been sensitised about ISI activities and advised to be vigilant in the matter.

Status of Displaced Kashmiri Pandits

848. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL:
SHRI PRAFULL GORADIA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present status of Kashmiri pandits who are displaced due to militancy and are away from their homes, living in miserable conditions, considering the forthcoming winter seasons;

(b) whether they have not been rehabilitated so far;

(c) if so, whether any proposal is pending with Government to give them some relief;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) to (e) As intimated by the State Government a Sub-Committee constituted by the State Government for preparing an action plan for return of the migrants, has submitted a draft interim report for the consideration of the State Government.